IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA Asheville Division

THERON MULLINAX, Guardian Ad Litem for GEORGE HOWARD McELRATH,

Plaintiff,

VS.

ROBERT G. WARREN and wife, VIKI B. WARREN, and MOUNTAIN TOP FARMS, LLC,

Defendants,

and

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, and CENTRAL CAROLINA BANK,

Intervenor-Defendants.

CIVIL NO. 1:05CV61

ORDER APPROVING SETTLEMENT

THIS MATTER is before the Court upon request of Intervenor-Defendant United States of America for the approval by the Court of a proposed settlement that has been reached by and among, and with respect to the claims pending among, the Plaintiff Theron Mullinax, Guardian Ad Litem for George Howard McElrath, and the Intervenor-Defendants United States of America and Central Carolina Bank, now SunTrust Bank.

Having heard argument from counsel for Plaintiff, Defendants and Intervenor-Defendants, and having made inquiry of the Guardian Ad Litem for George Howard McElrath, the Court finds and concludes that the Settlement Agreement and Release proposed by the settling parties, a copy of which is annexed to this Order, is in the best interest of all parties and, with particular respect to George Howard McElrath, is fair and reasonable.

IT IS NOW, THEREFORE, ORDERED that such Settlement Agreement and Release is hereby approved.

Signed: January 24, 2006

Lacy H. Thornburg United States District Judge